Daily Eagle.

M. M. MURDOCK, Editor.

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"VIRTUE IS HER OWN REWARD."

"Her own reward," and yet the very noblest
That ever recompensed the souls of men
For all the weight of suffering and of sadness,
For all the anguish of the "might have been."

Each act of virtue is the sure unclasping
Of chains that bind the spirit to the earth,
The glorious winning of that proud position
That fits a thing of an immortal birth.

"Her own reward" for earth can find no other
To offer him who kneels at that fair shrine.
Behold! her glad Shekinah shines upon him,
And in that light he groweth half divine.

The slaves of earth may claim her paltry treasures.
What could she gather from her poisonous sod
As fitting guerdon for that pure endeavor
Whose sweet reward is fellowship with God?

—*Mary E. Vandyke, in Harper's Weekly.*

A GREAT INSTITUTION.

The New York Press and Its Tireless Reporters.

The universally accepted idea of a newspaper reporter is that he is an impudent, dissolute person, who wanders over the city until he finds some piece f news—no matter of what character, rovided it will find readers. This he takes to his office and writes out in very bad English. Like many other generally accepted conceptions of men whose business brings them into public notice, this is not a correct one. Not only are a majority of newspaper reporters upon our most influential metropolitan papers men of education and of culture, but their work is systematized and gathered through organized channels of investigation.

The work of the reporter is given him by the chief of the local news department of the journal with which he is connected, who is known as the city editor. The duties of this editor require untiring energy and the utmost diligence and application. He must see that his paper gives all the important and interesting news of the city and vicinity while it is yet fresh, and if possible before it has been published in any other paper. Eternal vigilance is the price of his position. Every important and unimportant event in politics, finance, society and crime he must follow, and see that the reporters under him investigate and present promptly for the next edition of his paper.

The city editor of a great New York daily has the whole city under observation, as well as Brooklyn, Jersey City and the adjoining country for fifty miles around. He assigns one reporter to each police court. Men are also detailed to each of the other courts, civil and criminal, from the district courts to the Supreme Bench.

An important bureau of news gathering is the headquarters of the police department. Two men from each newspaper are kept watching the returns of this department day and night. Each of these journals has rooms in a building directly opposite the police headquarters in Mulberry street, where the strictest observation is kept upon all criminal matters. If a murder or a crime of any kind is committed in any part of the city, it is at once reported by the police officer in whose patrol it occurred to the police station of his precinct. Thence it is at once telegraphed to police headquarters.

A record of every event of this kind is made on a "blotter" in the reporter's room at headquarters. The moment this information is obtained, the reporter starts out to hunt up the facts. He may have a whole day in which to make his investigations, or he may have only an hour; perhaps but half an hour. Whenever a fire breaks out in any part of the city, or an accident occurs, an alarm is at once sent to police headquarters. The same transmission strikes a similar alarm in the reporters' building opposite. Ten seconds after it has sounded—be it midday or midnight—twenty men, representing all the papers in the city, burst out of the door and disappear in the direction of the fire. They get there very often before the engines.

If the victim of an accident is carried to the hospital, the reporter visits the place where the sufferer was injured, and ascertains how he was hurt, and then goes to the hospital and learns his condition.

In order that nothing of this sort shall escape notice, reporters are sent out after midnight to all the police stations and hospitals from Harlem to the Battery; for, as most of the papers go to press between half-past two and half-past three o'clock in the morning, there would be a perceptible loss of time while waiting for information to get to police headquarters. Even five minutes makes an important difference in a newspaper office at two o'clock in the morning. Another bureau of criminal news is the coroner's office. Any sudden death under suspicious or extraordinary circumstances is at once reported to the coroner and registered for the reporters who cover that office. They investigate every case for themselves, or report it to their city editors for their judgment. So much for the news obtained through the departments of justice.

Each newspaper has also a reporter who calls daily at the offices of all the city officials, from the mayor and controller down, and learns of any important news that occurs in their departments. Another visits the sheriff, the district attorney and the county officials, and one zealously watches the City Hall, where a large room is furnished with desks and tables for reporters.

A reporter "covers" the post-office and the Federal court in that building and obtains any important news there. Another spends the day among the exchanges and brokers in Wall street, to keep the public posted on financial affairs, and one man's sole duty is to keep a look-out on the water-front for marine news of any kind. Other reporters visit the various municipal departments—the Department of Parks, of Public Works, of Charities and Correction. One man is kept at the quarantine station in the Narrows to telegraph any important news of newly-arrived trans-Atlantic steamers; another visits all the theaters each night—not to criticise the play, that comes under another department of the paper—but to learn of any important changes in the cast of a performance, or to obtain any interesting information pertaining to the stage. The reporters also visit all the leading hotels to get the names of prominent men from all over the world, from the hotel registers.

From a great many of these places no information worth printing is obtained once a year; but a newspaper takes no risk of being "left" on any matter of news. The large newspapers have each a reporter in Brooklyn, Jersey City, Newark and Paterson, who does not report at the office, but sends in his "copy" by a messenger. Besides these out-of-town men, reporters are kept by each paper—one on Long Island, one on Staten Island and one to travel daily in Westchester County, up the Hudson between Sing Sing and New York, to obtain the news from those places.

But all these are merely the routine reporters, who do the same work each day. Besides these, there are the men who do "general work," as it is called—who are sent to religious meetings and prize-fights; who interview great men and women; who attend funerals; who obtain obituary sketches of men of prominence, whether living or dead; who write sketches of street occurrences; attend important trials in the courts; report sermons and lectures and hangings; investigate rumors, and do a thousand and one other kinds of work that goes towards filling the local columns of the great dailies with current intelligence. If a well-known citizen is dangerously ill, a reporter is sent to some friend or relative of the suffering man, to obtain the main facts of his life for an obituary sketch, in case the man should die. If the sick man recovers, the sketch is written and put in type, with blanks left for the date of his death, when it occurs at some future day. Then a proof-sheet of the article is filed away in the obituary department of the paper, known among newspaper men as "the grave-yard," and retained until the prominent citizen does die. In these "grave-yards" of the great newspapers, there are kept obituary sketches of the most prominent men and women of the world, ready to be filled in with the date of death and published as soon as the subject of the sketch, as must happen sooner or later, is claimed by the King of Terrors.

When a noted citizen is dangerously ill a reporter keeps watch for his death each night, until the paper goes to press. Should the death take place, the reporter telegraphs at once to his city editor; the blanks in the obituary sketch are filled in, and the sketch of the man's life appears in the paper the next morning. Commodore Vanderbilt's last illness was so long, and his death so lingering that the newspapers hired a room for their reporters in the vicinity of his residence, and during his illness the old man sent jocose messages to the men who were waiting for his death.

When a great accident occurs in the city, such, for instance, as the crush of the East River bridge after it was first opened to the public, when thirteen persons were killed, a number of reporters are sent out to work on the case. Each reporter is detailed to give only one portion of the account that shall appear in the next morning's paper. For example: When the East River bridge tragedy took place one man was directed to obtain such information as would enable him to give the introduction to the sketch and a general description of the tragical scene at the time of its occurrence. There his work ended. Another reporter was detailed to ascertain minutely the cause of the accident. This he was to do and nothing more. A third was sent to the police station, where the dead were carried, to describe the sad scenes there. Another reporter was detailed to visit the hospitals where the wounded were, and to ascertain late at night their condition and chances for recovery. Among five or six other reporters was divided the list of names of the dead and wounded who had been carried to their homes; and that list, which comprised names from all over New York, Brooklyn and Jersey City, was absolutely verified by a personal visit to the house of each victim. Two reporters were sent out to interview as many eye-witnesses of the tragedy as could be found, and to give each man's description of the scene as it appeared to him. The different sections of the article were then given to the city editor, who joined them together in their proper sequence. In this way each paper the next morning had a long and a reasonably accurate description of the tragedy.

Reporters are a recognized institution in New York. The value and importance of their labor is universally conceded. Each prominent church has its reporters' table, where are all accommodations for the men of the pencil. Senate committees, commercial organizations, charitable and benevolent, public and private instiutions, lecturers, speakers, associations and meetings of all kinds are careful to send invitations to their proceedings to every newspaper in the city, in order that they may secure a historian of their transactions.

Every public entertainment has a committee to take care of the "members of the press" who shall be present, and all public exhibitions have each a "press agent," who makes himself agreeable to the reporters and gives them all the information they want, and generally a great deal more.—*F. Marshall White, in Youth's Companion.*

THE PERSIAN ARMY.

The Help It Could Give England in a War with Russia.

I have of late been surprised (1) at the orderly regularity of their camps; (2) at the fair show of discipline and neatness of dress when on duty; (3) at the cleanliness of their rifles, which in the regular army are all breech-loaders, though not of the best and latest patterns; (4) at the intelligence and smartness of some of their officers. There is now a military college at Teheran, at which the superior class of officers are instructed in branches of military education similar to those taught at most European military academies. The inferior class of officers is drawn in the main from the middle or lower grades of the Persian people, and is as a rule by no means highly educated. Many of them, however, are capable and intelligent; though others, and, I fear, the majority, are the very reverse. This class never, or hardly ever, rises above the grade of Yawar or Major. There are 80 battalions of Persian infantry, each nominally 1,000 strong. Perhaps we may be not far wrong if we assume the actual average strength of each to be 500, thus making a total of 40,000. The Shah has only three regiments of regular cavalry, drilled and disciplined by Russian officers on the Cossack system. He has at Teheran several batteries of artillery (guns of modern make) also under European officers, while scattered over his kingdom are a collection of antiquated pieces of ordnance worked by artillerymen more or less proficient in the duties they are called on to perform. To the above may be added an almost unlimited number of irregular cavalry, but very indifferently armed. Their arms are their weak point. They are good horsemen, well mounted on horses capable of enduring much hard work, and are entirely independent of transport and commissariat. A more mobile force could not be found, and, composed as it is of Kurds, Turks, Bakhtiaris, Hazaras, Jamshidis, and all the best and bravest fighting element of Persia, one not to be despised. But it must be better armed in time of war. That portion of the Persian army which is under the Zill-us-Sultan at Isfahan has a good name for drill, discipline, and general efficiency. All considered, then, we should be justified in placing somewhat greater faith in the efficacy of Persian military resources than most recent writers have displayed. I would not argue that a Russian corps d'armee marching on Teheran would be likely to find the Persian forces more than a match for it; but in the event of a war between England and Russia it would be a great advantage to the former if the latter were obliged to detach a corps d'armee, whether to watch the Persian frontier or to repel a Persian attack. Moreover, with a hostile Persian on her right flank, the operations of Russia from the Caspian via Askabad and Sarakhs against Herat would be, if not paralyzed, at least seriously hampered. Let not, then, England despise a Persian alliance. But, be it remembered, that alliance will be conditional upon the successful debarkation of a British army in the Caucasus—which means Turkish co-operation—and probably, also on the presence of a powerful force from India at Herat.—*National Review.*

—"The remedy is worse than the disease"—as the young lady remarked who was expecting a male friend to pass the Sabbath evening, and so was seized with a headache so violent that she could not go to church with her family; when her mother put her feet in hot water, gave her a dose of castor oil, and sent her to bed at seven.—*Boston Post.*

—"Fine horse you've got there," said Jones to a Kentuckian riding a beautiful bay saddler. "Pretty fair hoss," responded the Kentuckian, with affected indifference. "Thoroughly trained as a saddle horse, too, a'nt he?" "Knows all the motions, he does." "What do you call him?" "Thebes." "Thebes! That's odd. I never heard such a name for a horse before. What do you call him that for?" "Because he has a hundred gates, of course. Don't you know ancient history?"—*Merchant Traveler.*

LABOR'S LOAD.

The Immense Burden Borne by the Workmen of the Old World.

One hundred thousand millions of dollars, more or less, constitutes the sum of the bonded public debts, national and municipal, of the civilized world. The annual interest thereon at 4 per cent.—a fair average rate, we think—amounts to $4,000,000,000, which has to be paid out of the annual products of labor, besides paying all the living expenses of the population, and all taxes for the support of the various forms of government and laying by many other millions as a reserve fund to draw upon for future wants. And this immense load has been placed upon the backs of the producing classes—six-sevenths of it at least—within the last one hundred years. Labor carries this burden almost alone, for the non-producing classes, whether they are rich or poor, are all dependent alike upon those engaged in the various kinds of labor for their support. The rich live upon the accumulated products of former years, while the poor live upon those of the present time. Not more than one-third—probably not more than one-quarter—of the population of the earth are producers, hence the burden of the laborer is much greater than that of any other class. But when millions of them are forced to be idle, as is the case at the present time, it not only increases the burden of the remainder, but breeds discontent, crime and misery; and when their numbers are sufficiently increased by a long continued depression the peace of society and the stability of governments are seriously threatened. As their numbers increase and their complaints become louder they are listened to with sympathetic care by vast numbers but little better off by reason of their poverty, resulting from low wages and scant employment. The justness of these complaints is also acknowledged by a large class of reasonable and conscientious people who are themselves in good circumstances, but who can not witness the misery of their fellow-beings with indifference.

In this country of peace and plenty, of liberty and equality before the law, the privations and misery of the unemployed laboring class are less severe than in the older civilizations of Europe, for in Germany and France, for example, many millions of the inhabitants, including women and children, labor constantly and severely, and yet live in squalid poverty, scarcely able to secure food, shelter and clothing enough to keep soul and body together, by reason of their meager earnings. In proof of this let us refer to the tables of the statistician, who tells us that in Prussia, in 1882, the number of families exempt from taxation because their annual income was less than $125, was upward of 7,000,000, and increasing. In France, out of the 8,000,000 of land proprietors, no less than 3,000,000 of them are on the pauper roll, exempt from personal taxation. Both in France and Germany the number of small land proprietors is so great that the land has to be cultivated by hand, by the men, women and children of a family together, at a great disadvantage in competition with the improved agricultural machinery employed on large farms in their own and other countries. Some of them are, even then, forced to givn up their lands to the parish, to entitle them to relief.

M. Lafargue, in a recent publication, says the excessive subdivision of property and the scattering of the small patches of land belonging to a single proprietor not only prevent the use of agricultural machines, but entangle them to a hopeless degree, one with another, giving rise to interminable and ruinous lawsuits and inextinguishable hatreds, thereby causing an alarming situation in France, which is now passing through an agricultural crisis, causing great depression and distress among the laboring classes. The same condition of things exists in Germany and other parts of Europe, where the same system of small holdings and low wages prevails.—*Brooklyn Eagle.*

CUPID IN MEXICO.

The Requirements of Courtship in the Land of the Montezumas.

When a young man sees a young lady to whom he wishes to pay his addresses—he may have caught a glimpse of her at a window, or on the street, or met her at a tertulia or evening party—he endeavors to get into communication with her to inform her that it is his desire to pay his addresses to her. It is entirely permissible for him to speak to her and convey his wish, and if she is inclined to respond to his desire, she must, if she is well-bred, tell him to "ask mamma." Then young Don Fulano begins to appear in the street where resides the lady of his heart. He paces up and down in front of the house and endeavors to catch a glimpse of her. All the senoritas, and the mamma, and the aunts, if there be any in the house, are on the watch for his appearance, and his promptness is taken to indicate that he is in earnest in the matter. It is permissible for him to send love letters to the young lady via the window, but that letter which contains the manifestations of his heart's tenderness must be handed by the senorita to her mamma, according to the rules of all decent society. If mamma approves, the young man is sure to find the senorita hovering about the balcony when he is pacing the sidewalk below, or, perchance, the sidewalk across the way. She may even send him notes, first having submitted them to the parental eye. Papa then begins to "take a hand" in the affair. He makes inquiry into the young man's pecuniary prospects. If the suitor is in business, his chances of promotion are considered and his salary known. If he is heir to an estate, that is inquired into minutely, the object, of course, being, if the young man is not satisfactory, to let the matter drop where it is and to reserve the daughter for a more eligible person. The young man's habits are, among respectable families, quite as much a matter of inquiry and investigation as his busines or financial prospects.

And still the young man is coming every day to "play the bear" (*hacer el oso*) beneath the window. Some young ladies, inspired by the jealousy of the feminine heart, demand that the young man shall appear "on schedule time" every day so as to make tolerably certain that he is not utilizing his time in the same way with some other fair one. If the girl is obdurate it may be six months or even a year that the young man must play the bear to her. She gets a peep at him through the curtains, spies him from odd windows and watches his daily exhibition of devotion with true feminine curiosity. If he has been "real good," as the girls say, he may, even after a few weeks, approach the window and whisper soft nothings to his lady love. Then he asks permission to call upon her, and, if it is granted, he gets on his best clothes and makes a most ceremonious call in the presence of the entire family, for this is a regular "state occasion." If he gets permission to call regularly, he perhaps comes every third day, but there is always some member of the family in the room, and the lover never gets a chance to have a word in private. He is always in the full blaze of domestic publicity.

The senoritas say that there are "ways" of talking with the eyes, the fan and the lips, and if they wish to show how real their affection is for their suitor, that words are unnecessary. The "enamorades" meet at tertulias, on the public promenade or at the theater. They have many opportunities of meeting, and may dance with one another under the eye of eternal vigilance. Marriage may come in a few months, or in a year or more, according to the means of the suitor or the wishes of the parents.—*Mexico Cor. Boston Herald.*

—At a recent temperance meeting in Youngstown, O., Mrs. Knight, a saloon keeper, signed the pledge and at once put her faith into works by turning her saloon into a coffee house.